

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, February 4, 1997 at the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Roy Roberts, Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, William Mays, and Ron McCall

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Joe Pippin, City Attorney

Prior to the invocation, Mayor Raines asked for a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Carroll N. Tate, Publisher of the Coalfield Progress, who passed away this morning. Mayor Raines spoke briefly on Mr. Tate's many contributions to the community.

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The invocation was given by Rev. Bob Kespelher followed by the pledge of allegiance which was led Police Officer Wayne Roberts and the Norton Police Department Explorers.

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Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the January 21, 1997 meeting as presented.

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During the Audience for Visitors, Police Chief Sam Mongle advised Council of the outcome of the Norton Police Department Explorer Post No. 444's performance at the 1997 Winterfest Competition held in Gatlinburg this past week-end. Two of the members won plaques - one for 1st Place in Marksmanship and one for 2nd Place in Marksmanship. Council was shown pictures taken during the competition and the plaques won. Mr. Mongle thanked Council for their assistance in helping to fund this activity.

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Mayor Raines thanked Officer Roberts, Police Chief Mongle, and the explorers for a job well done.

The Director of Social Services, Bill Stokes, spoke to Council advising of the welfare reform and its impact in the City of Norton.

He advised Council of two programs and went into detail explaining them. Following his presentation, Mr. Stokes answered questions that Council had and stated that the budget for the Social Services Department would probably stay the same for the time being.

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Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Stokes for this update.

Council had a request for a budget amendment in the amount of \$4,697 to the Social Services Budget. Mr. Stokes, Director of Social Services, advised this amount reflects monies that are for the administration of the Fuel Assistance Program.

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Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to authorize a budget amendment in the amount of \$4,697 to the Social Services Budget.

Council had a letter in their packets from the City Attorney advising that the City needs to make a recommendation to Judge Stump of a Special Commissioner for the City's Delinquent Tax Cases. On December 16th of last year, Council made the recommendation of Ms. Jewel Morgan for this position. Ms. Morgan has now accepted a position with the Commonwealth Attorney's Office. Mr. Pippin advised Council that there are approximately seven cases which will need action.

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Following a discussion, it was the consensus of Council that the City Manager and City Attorney work on a mailing that is to be sent to lawyers in the City of Norton to see if they are interested in submitting a proposal to do this work.

A request from the Credit Bureau of Wise County, Inc. was in Council's packet for a sewer tap at the Ramsey intersection.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized a sewer connection for the Credit Bureau of Wise County, Inc.

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A request for a water tap for Carroll A. Fisher and the Little Stone Gap Church at 5354 Esserville Road was in Council's packet.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by the following vote: Roberts - NO, Wallace, Mays, McCall, and Raines - YES, Council authorized a water tap for the Little Stone Gap Church.

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The City Manager will advise both of their respective tap approvals.

A check in the amount of \$115,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools was in Council's packet for approval.

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Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$115,000 payable to the Norton City Schools.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia as amended.

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Mayor Raines declared the meeting in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session.

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Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Executive Meeting with each answering aye. The Clerk then read the entire Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

17738

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations of an appointment of a Commonwealth Attorney to the Southwest Virginia Community Corrections Board to replace Mr. Don Askins, who has resigned.

Roy Roberts nominated Mr. Roy Evans of Smyth County to be appointed to the Southwest Virginia Community Corrections Board.

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Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Roy Evans of Smyth County as our recommendation to the Southwest Virginia Community Corrections Board.

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

He had met with Mr. Vince Valenti, Urban Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation on the Tipple Hill Project. This project is in the planning stages and the estimated cost is \$875,000. Construction date is January 2000.

The CIP Meeting will be held Friday at 12:00 noon at the Holiday Inn.

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That three pieces of legislation he had been following (SB966, SB789, SB917) had been defeated. He briefly went over each of these with Council.

On the board was a map showing the Plan Sheet of the Pine Hills Project. The road has been closed and will be covered by approximately 200 tons of stone to

protect it. This stone will be taken to the City Shop for City use after completion of this project by Barnette Contractors, who received the bid for this job.

In comments from the City Attorney, Mr. Pippin advised that the Loreto Heights Motion is to be heard Friday at 10:00. Also there is a motion to get clean-up costs from Helen Bolling (who has remarried and left the area). He has added the name of the resident occupying this property and also Glenn Bolling's children by his first wife.

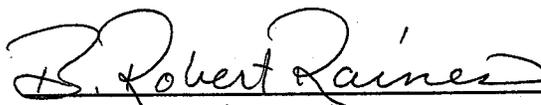
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In comments from Council, Vice Mayor Mays extended birthday greetings to the City Manager.

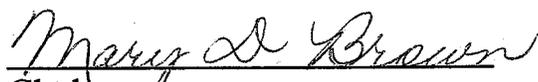
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There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk